REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the specification, claims and Abstract have been amended to improve form and to place the Abstract in conformance with the length limitation under MPEP § 608.01(b).

No new matter is presented.

Accordingly, approval and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

ITEM 2: OBJECTION TO ABSTRACT

As noted in the foregoing, the Abstract has been amended to be in compliance with the length limitation of MPEP 608.01(b) and, accordingly, it is submitted that the objection has been overcome and the same should be withdrawn.

ITEM 4: EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR THE INDICATION OF ALLOWED SUBJECT MATTER

In the closing line of this item, at page 3, lines 1 and 2 of the present, *Ex parte Quayle*Office Action, the Examiner notes that "composed" is considered to mean the same as the word "comprising."

Applicants agree with that interpretation and, in conformity therewith, have presented amendments in both the specification and claims, substituting --comprising-- for "composed of" in claim 1 and likewise changing "including" to --comprises-- in claim 2/1, and also to improve the grammatical form of claim 2/1.

The original Abstract uses the expression "an electrode and a workpiece, as the other electrode..." which applicants have changed to --a first electrode and a workpiece, as a second electrode--. That change, as well, has been made in the third paragraph at page 6 of the specification and which is submitted to better explain the expressions "between the electrodes" appearing both in the third and fourth paragraphs of the specification and on the ordinates of Figs. 2a through 4b.

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CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing overcomes the objection raised in the Action and further that, in view of the existing allowance of the pending claims 1 and 2/1, that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 2, 2004

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